



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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425

*Algeria 16/11
10.2.11*

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451

ACTION: AF-13

INFO: OCT-01 E-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-06 H-02 INR-06 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 P-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 OEP-01

COM-08 TRSY-11 TRSE-00 INT-06 EUR-14 OPIC-12 AID-20

IGA-02 JUS-02 NEA-09 RSR-01 // DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

048009

R: 211229Z OCT 71
FM USINT ALGIERS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6623
INFO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

REVIEWED BY *cf*

DATE *6/10/81*

RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE

TS AUTH. REASON(S)

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐

DECLASSIFIED ☒ RELEASABLE ☒

RELEASE DENIED ☐

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

LIBYAN OIL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE: ALGIERS: 1671

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE NATIONALIZATION OF

REF: STATE'S 192456

1. QUOTE FROM LA REPUBLIQUE ARTICLE CONTAINED REFTEL IS ACCURATE SUMMATION OF ITEM WHICH APPEARED IN OCT 20 ISSUE. (ROUGH TRANSLATION OF TEXT TELEPHONED TO US BY ORAN CONSUL MAXIM.) INFO FOR THIS NEWS ITEM IS DESCRIBED AS COMING FROM "WELL INFORMED SOURCES" AND LATER ON IN ARTICLE AS FROM "INFORMED LIBYAN SOURCE." SECOND SENTENCE OF ARTICLE SAYS: "IN ANGLO-SAXON CIRCLES IT IS EXPECTED THAT GOLI WILL INTERVENE IN THIS SENSE (DEMAND RETURN OF 51 PER CENT OF CAPITAL OF CONCESSIONARY COMPANIES) IN FEW WEEKS." ARTICLE ADDS THAT "INTERNATIONAL CARTEL" IS NOW TAKING INVENTORY OF MEANS WHICH MIGHT BE USED TO BRING LIBYA TO COMPROMISE BUT THAT IT WOULD BE VIRTUALLY UNAFFECTED BY TACTICS SUCH AS EMBARGO. WHILE ARTICLE MAKES REFERENCE TO BOUMEDIENE QADHAFI TALKS AT HASSI MESSAOU, IT SAYS ONLY THAT PETROLEUM WAS ONE OF SUBJECTS COVERED IN MEETING.

2. ARTICLE HAS NOT BEEN PICKED UP IN ALGIERS PRESS OR BY APS. WHILE PRESS IS GOVERNMENT CONTROLLED, THERE IS NOT PRECENSORSHIP AS SUCH. JOURNALISTS WITHIN CERTAIN LIMITS

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ENJOY CONSIDERABLE FLEXIBILITY ON WHAT THEY WRITE. FACT THAT THIS WAS NOT REPORTED IN ALGIERS PRESS SUGGESTS THAT IT WAS EITHER INACCURATE OR GOVERNMENT RULED THAT IT WAS UNDESIRABLE TO PRINT STORY BEFORE GOLI RELEASED MORE OFFICIAL VERSION. CONSUL MAXIM, WHO DISCUSSED ARTICLE WITH LA REPUBLIQUE EDITOR, TELLS US THAT EDITOR WOULD ONLY SAY THAT SOURCE WAS "FIRST HAND." WE MUST THEREFORE ASSUME THAT SOURCE WAS PROBABLY LIBYAN IN GADHAFI ENTOURAGE. EAGLETON

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